

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111
USSN: 09/887,168

REMARKS

Claims 13 and 18 are all the claims pending in the application. Applicant notes that claims 1-12 and 14-17 were canceled without prejudice or disclaimer in the Preliminary Amendment filed on June 25, 2001.

New claims 19 and 20 have been added to further define the scope of Applicant's invention.

IDS

The Examiner states that the IDS filed on June 25, 2001 fails to comply with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2) and thus the references will not be considered. However, Applicant notes that all of the references listed on the IDS are of record in parent application No. 09/257,953. In addition, MPEP 609(I)(A)(2) states:

2. Continuation Applications or Divisional Applications, Filed Under 37 CFR 1.53(b) Or Filed Under Former 37 CFR 1.60, Or Continuation-In-Part Applications Filed Under 37 CFR 1.53(b)

The examiner will consider information which has been considered by the Office in a parent application when examining (A) a continuation application filed under 37 CFR 1.53(b) or filed under former 37 CFR 1.60, (B) a divisional application filed under 37 CFR 1.53(b) or filed under former 37 CFR 1.60, or (C) a continuation-in-part application filed under 37 CFR 1.53(b). **Such information need not be resubmitted in the continuing application unless the applicant desires the information to be printed on the patent.** (emphasis added)

Applicant also notes that the IDS specifically requested that the references be listed on the face of any patent granted in this application.

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PRIOR ART REJECTIONS

The Examiner rejected claim 13 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Shirouzu (U.S. Patent No. 5,502,795). Applicant traverses this rejection because Shirouzu fails to disclose or suggest all of the limitations of the claim, as amended. Specifically, Shirouzu fails to disclose at least the following limitations:

a third element which produces a shading range having a starting point and a ending point, wherein said shading range is adjacent to one of said partial straight lines, and makes the brightness of said shading range change smoothly from said starting point to said ending point by ***placing the brightness data of said background at said starting point and the brightness data of said straight line at said ending point.***

Regarding claim 18, it should be allowable at least based on its dependence from claim 13 for the reasons describe above.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

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Respectfully submitted,



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